

**Summer 2014** 

A City of Carlsbad Police Department Neighborhood Watch Publication



# Vacation Safety A little planning can ensure your safety.

Planning a summer vacation to an exotic destination? Here are some safety tips that can help ensure your safety and security.

#### Before you go:

- What are you leaving behind? Consider your home's security. The Police Department can help. Schedule a Vacation Security Consultation with the police department before you leave.
- Call 760-931-2214 about two weeks before you go to schedule the consultation.
- A member of the Senior Volunteer Patrol will come to your home and bring you a vacation security package.
- The package includes a check list of the things you should do at home before you head out to your vacation destination.

### While on vacation:

- Be alert. In parking lots, after dark, on public transportation, in sparsely populated areas and at ATMs, banks or whenever cash is displayed.
- Protect valuables. Only carry what you need. Use a hotel safe, if possible. Limit how much cash you carry; using credit cards is safer. Leave expensive jewelry at home.
- Consider your image. Wear comfortable clothing that blends with the locals. Travel in pairs or groups if possible. Walk with purpose, like you know where you're going, even if you don't.
- Be alert and aware at all times, and use common sense.
   Resist giving money to street beggars, some are lures to get you to take out your wallet. Watch out for strangers that cause a distraction.
- Avoid excessive drinking that impairs judgment and makes you an easy target. Buy drinks strait from the bartender and don't accept drinks from others.

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- Be aware of your surroundings. Guard personal information and important details such as hotel information and room number. Keep a local map with you at all times. Ask the hotel staff about areas to stay away from. Confirm directions to sites with the concierge. Use well-recommended taxis and tour operators. Put the local emergency number into your cellphone.
- Secure your room. Ask for a more secure, above ground floor room that is close to the lobby or registration desk. Use all the door locks including those on patios doors. Like at home, secure all windows and doors when leaving for your adventure. Meet tour operators in the lobby or other populated place and don't open your hotel room door to strangers.
- about your vacation destination. Do some research before you travel. Learn about the crime rate and what neighborhoods you should avoid. Try Google maps and see if you can view the hotel.



 Prevent fraud. Change money only with well-known institutions or your hotel. When using a credit card, try to keep it in sight the entire time. Don't give out a credit card number to anyone over the phone, even if they're supposedly from the hotel. Go to the front desk to settle the matter.

A little preparation can make all the difference. Plan ahead, follow some easy tips and make only great vacation memories.

# **Summer Safety Tips for Kids Tips for a safe and fun summer.**

A few tips to share with your kids to ensure they have a safe and secure summer.

- At home, always check-first before opening your door and if you do not know the person, don't open the door.
- Always check-first with a parent, guardian or sitter before inviting someone over or before letting someone in your house.
- Learn to screen your phone calls and only answer the phone for people you know and have been given permission to talk to.
- Make sure your parent, guardian or sitter always knows where you are.
- Check-first with your parent, guardian or sitter before you leave the house.
- Check-first and never leave the yard without permission.

- Plan to play with a buddy; there is safety in numbers.
- When walking down the street to a friend's house, store or other destination, plan the route with your parent, guardian or sitter and stay on that route.
- Check-first with your parent, guardian or sitter before speaking to anyone you don't know well. An example of a person you know well is someone you would be allowed to invite to dinner.
- If someone you don't know well tries to talk to you, run away from them and tell your parent, guardian or sitter right-a-way.
- Always wear a helmet while riding a bike.
- Always wear a seat belt.
- Use caution around the street; stay on the sidewalk and don't run into the street.
- Know the safe houses in your neighborhood. Talk to your parent, guardian or sitter about what houses are safe to go to if you need help.
- Understand how and why to call 911.
- Prove to your parents that you are ready to be out and about by following the rules and always return home at the time set by your parent, guardian or sitter.

### **Oversized Vehicle Ordinance**

The rules for RVs and other oversized vehicles on Carlsbad streets.

Now that summer vacationing is in full swing, it is a good time remind everyone of the rules for RVs and other oversized vehicles in Carlsbad. A City of Carlsbad ordinance restricts overnight parking of oversized vehicles on city streets between the hours of 2 and 5 a.m. If you are a resident with a RV or other oversized vehicle, or you plan to visit one of our hotels - don't fear - you can get a permit. The dimensions of an oversized vehicle are 22 feet in length, seven feet in height and seven feet in width. Learn more about the rules here http://goo.gl/sILWTG



## National Night Out—2014

Sending a message that team Carlsbad is organized and preventing crime!

On Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2014, we will be participating in "National Night Out." The Police Department is inviting community members to participate in National Night out by planning an outside neighborhood gathering like a block party, barbeque or potluck between the hours of 5:30 p.m.

and 9 p.m. To participate in National Night Out, register your outside neighborhood gathering with the Police Department by emailing <a href="mailto:jodee.sasway@carlsbadca.gov">jodee.sasway@carlsbadca.gov</a>, and members of the Police Department will visit your gathering sometime between 5:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jodee Sasway at 760-931-2105 or jodee.sasway@carlsbadca.gov Police emergency call 911 Police non-emergency call 760-931-2197 www.carlsbadca.gov/crime-prevention

- Aug. 5, 2014
- Outside in your neighborhood—a neighborhood gathering
- Between 5:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- Register—jodee.sasway@carlsbadca.gov

Since 1984, National Night Out has highlighted community involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. These year-long efforts are celebrated during National Night Out with an evening that showcases efforts toward teamwork and collaboration.